Dear Incoming Eighth Graders,

Over the summer you are required to read at least three books. The following two titles are required:

- **Red Kayak** by Priscilla Cummings
- **The Red Umbrella** by Christina Diaz Gonzales

I have many copies of these two books. Come and see me if you would like to have one.

In addition, choose one title from the books listed below OR one from the upper grade nonfiction list (on school website):

- **Finding Miracles** by Julia Alvarez
- **Chains** by Laurie Halse Anderson
- **Catherine, Called Birdy** by Karen Cushman
- **Outsiders** by S. E. Hinton
- **The Brave** by Robert Lipsyte
- **War Horse** by Michael Morpurgo
- **A Single Shard** by Linda Sue Park
- **Between Shades of Gray** by Ruta Sepetys
- **Roll of Thunder, Hear My Cry** by Mildred D. Taylor
- **One Came Home** by Amy Timberlake
- **Uglies** by Scott Westerfield
- **American Born Chinese** by Gene Luen Yang

Do not complete a project for **The Red Umbrella**. You will be assessed on your knowledge of this title upon your return to school. For **Red Kayak**, complete the book jacket theme activity listed on the attached instructions. For the other book of your choice, write the Book Summary described on the instruction sheet. These assignments are due the first day of school. They will contribute to your literature grade. If you would like to read a book that is not on the list, email me at Kathleen.morris@sjbsilverspring.org by July 30 for permission.

I think you’ll enjoy these titles. Have a great summer.

Happy reading!

Mrs. Morris